GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:274
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCILS
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the list of Export Promotion Councils under the administrative control of the Ministry and their role, State-wise.;

(b) whether the Government had constituted a committee under the chairmanship of the Textiles Commissioner to go into the working of the Export Promotion Councils;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the recommendations made by it;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the action being taken against the EPCs which have not acted on the recommendations of the Committee ?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 274 ANSWER ON 9.8.2001

(a): The Export Promotion Councils (EPCs) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles are as under:-

- Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi,
- The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai
- Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.
- Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.
- Handloom Export Promotion Council, Chennai.
- The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Mumbai
- Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council, Mumbai.
- Wool & Woollen Export Promotion Council, New Delhi
- Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi.

The Export Promotion Councils have also got regional /other offices at important centres of production and export.

As per Chapter 13 of Exim Policy, the main role of the EPCs is to project India`s image abroad as a reliable supplier of high quality goods and services. In particular, the EPCs shall encourage and monitor the observance of international standards and specifications by exporters. Some of the major functions of the EPCs are:

- To provide commercially useful information and assistance to their members in developing and increasing their exports.
- To organize visits of delegations of its members abroad to explore overseas market opportunities.
- To organize participation in the trade fairs, exhibitions and buyer-seller meets in India and abroad.
- To promote interaction between the exporting community and the Government both at the Central and State levels.
- To build a statistical base and provide data on the exports and imports of the country exports and imports of their members, as well as other relevant international trade data.
- Undertaking market studies in individual foreign countries regularly as well as on adhoc basis.
- Recommending export targets to the Government and monitoring performance against the target fixed by the Government.
- In-depth analysis of the export performance and suggest remedial measures.
- To recommend policy initiatives to the Government for promotion of exports and to represent to the Government on difficulties experienced by exporters in availing the export benefits under various export promotion schemes of the Government.

(b) and (c) : Yes, Sir. An Expert Group under the Textile Commissioner alongwith 13 other members, comprising of the Executive Heads of all EPCs`; the representatives of Ministry of Textiles; Company Law Board ; andAddl. Textile Commissioner, was constituted to study the functioning of EPCs and to make recommendation to improve the same. The Expert Group in its report has recommended parameters for membership and election of the Council/ Chairman, cap on over all tenure of Executive Committee members; delegation of financial powers; staff control and supervision, etc.

(d) : The Department of Commerce had also set up a separate Committee under the chairmanship of Additional Secretary which formulated Model Articles of Association to be adopted by various EPCs to make them more democratic and transparent.

The report of the Expert Group submitted by Textile Commissioner and the model Articles of Association framed by Department of Commerce were sent to textile EPCs to incorporate and adopt the suggested changes.

(e) : Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC), Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC) and Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) have since amended their Articles o Association. Other EPCs are at different stages of amending the same.